

District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025



DISTRICT ELEVEN

CALIFORNIA, ARIZONA, NEVADA, SONORA MEXICO, HAWAII

GOVERNOR HILLARY'S MESSAGE



The Conference is coming; the conference is coming....

The board is excited to announce the 70th Annual District Eleven 2026 Conference in Avondale, Az. The 70th Annual 2026 Conference will be May 1 & 2nd 2026. The call to conference will be sent out soon. On September 27, 2026, District Eleven Board along with Buffum Richardson, Leadership Chair, presented the Fall Area Workshop. The Fall workshop was held in Chandler, Az and the topics were **Leadership**, **Onboarding**, **Mentorship**, and **Succession Planning**. The workshop had an amazing turnout. The last major announcement is District Eleven new Parliamentarian, *Leslie Fountain* from the West Valley. Welcome Leslie!

Clarity

Collaboration, Learning, Attribution, Reciprocity, Integrity, Teamwork,
Yield

District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025



District Eleven Parliamentarian 2025-2027

District Eleven is pleased to introduce Leslie Fountain of the West Valley Club as the new District Eleven Parliamentarian for this biennium. Leslie previously served as District Eleven Governor from 2007 to 2009 and has held multiple leadership roles within the West Valley Club, including President from 2017 to 2019. She currently serves as President of the West Valley Foundation.

With her extensive leadership experience, Leslie is an asset to the District Board, particularly as we prepare for the 2026 Conference in Avondale, Arizona. We are grateful for her continued service and look forward to working with her throughout this biennium.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025

Mamie L Bass

Service Award

Outstanding hands-on service to the community.

Service

-Beth & Becky Lorenzo, Service Chair

Dr Nina Fay Calhoun

International Relations Award

Outstanding club achievement in international relations.

Letha H Brown

Literacy Award

Outstanding service to the community through literacy projects.

My name is Beth Lorenzo, and it's with genuine excitement that I introduce myself as one of your new District Service and Literacy Co-Chairs. I'm pleased to also introduce my daughter, Becky Lorenzo, who is serving alongside me in this important role.

As a dedicated mother-daughter team representing the San Luis Obispo County Club, we bring a deep-seated commitment to advancing our district's service initiatives and literacy programs. We are truly thrilled to officially step into these roles as your Co-Chairs and are eager to contribute our passion and experience.

We are enthusiastic about the opportunity to collaborate with you and all our district members. Our aim is to foster meaningful projects and enhance service/literacy efforts across the district, and we look forward to connecting with you soon to discuss how we can assist you in this process.

We encourage you to utilize the member resources found on the Altrusa International website for information and ideas from the Service Project Database. When you work on your projects, think about adding a literacy component to them.

Begin planning your awards submissions now!

Identify a project	Select the appropriate award according to the award criteria.	Complete the application (provide pictures if available)
Study the judging criteria and score sheet to make sure your application covers everything indicated	Make sure the application is signed by your club president	Submit the application

Updated District Eleven awards applications are available on the District Eleven website for:

<https://login.altrusa.org/service/>.

We are looking forward to reading all your wonderful projects and what you're doing out there in your community.

District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025

Altrusa International Foundation

-Michelle Bell, Director

The Coachella Valley Club and District Eleven hosted an *Altrusa International Foundation Grant Applications: Tips & Tricks* Workshop on August 9, 2025. The workshop drew strong interest, with 81 RSVP's and 38 members in attendance. A recording was distributed to all who attended and RSVP'd and is also available on the District Eleven website under Member Resources. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with special recognition given to Margaret Beaman for her engaging and informative presentation.

Introducing Club 52

What began as Club 21—to support camps for children living with HIV/AIDS—has grown into a vibrant 30-year tradition of support and service. Today, as **Club 52**, we continue that legacy by funding children's camps for those living with disabilities and serious illnesses, along with international healthcare and educational initiatives that change lives around the world.

With this growth comes a greater need for resources. The \$21 donation that launched the program in 1997 is now nearly \$50 in today's terms. To meet these needs, Club 52 offers a simple, sustainable way to give:

Individuals: \$1 per week for 52 weeks, as a one-time gift of **\$52** each fiscal year

Clubs and Districts: **\$252** each fiscal year, uniting Altrusans in collective impact

At the 59th International Convention in Québec City, 274 Altrusans became Charter Members of **Club 52**, signaling a new era of generosity and commitment. By joining, you help ensure that children and families—both locally and globally—receive the care, opportunities, and hope they deserve.

Become a Charter Member Today! <https://foundation.altrusa.org/giving-programs-2/club-52/>

International Foundation Silent Auction/Raffle - Conference 2026

Call for Donations If members or a club would like to donate an item for our Altrusa International Foundation silent auction/raffle, please contact Michelle Bell at bellmichelle4089@gmail.com.

To find the *Altrusa International Foundation Grant Applications: Tips & Tricks* click here:

<https://districteleven.altrusa.org/member-resources/>.

District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025

District Eleven Strategic Plan 2025-27

-Danielle Robello, Gov Elect

Have you checked out our District's new strategic plan for this biennium? We've already completed an action item and have 9 in progress! The strategic plan is our roadmap to growth and success in alignment with Altrusa International's vision.

One of our goals is to create, empower, foster, and support growth in leadership at all levels. We plan on achieving this by creating a succession plan for our District Board, helping clubs create succession plans, and enhancing the relationship between the District Board and our District's clubs. Below are the action items we plan to implement to achieve our Leadership goal

- ✚ Share International succession plan materials with clubs
- ✚ Identify skills and qualifications of the members who fit various positions
- ✚ Mentor members to take on leadership roles
- ✚ Work with club presidents to enhance leadership skills
- ✚ Utilize club visits to maintain a database for district leadership
- ✚ Help District Clubs to create and implement Long Range Strategic Plans

Does your club have a strategic plan? You can make one for just one club year or the biennium. It's a great way to align your club's decisions and resources toward a common vision and goals. Think about the areas of your club that you would like to improve and opportunities you can take to grow. You can use our District Strategic Plan as a template for your club. Choose a goal for all 6 sections or just a select few, whatever works best for you!

Need help creating your strategic plan? Contact your District Board liaison or Leadership Chair Buffum Richardson. Send your final plan to Governor Hillary Sloan.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TGihbOeiR0JQrzjgEiv9w-G0f0ROSqY5/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=116371690209103848941&rtpof=true&sd=true.

District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025

Membership

-Shauna Stokes, Membership Chair

“Invent” a Membership Event and/or Stick to What Works

Greetings from your District Eleven Membership Chair. Happy Autumn to you all. The leaves are changing color. The air is crisper. We’re five months into our new Altrusa year. Dena Burian Blacklaw, Membership Development Committee Member, Altrusa International, Inc., has challenged us to bring in at least one new member each this year.

It’s time to hold or “invent” a new member event or events where you can celebrate your current club members and have them each invite at least one friend, relative, neighbor or casual acquaintance. If you are involved in other organizations, religious or civic or philanthropic, that are doing a project that your Altrusa club could be part of, invite them!

You can have a membership mixer at a club meeting, you could go to a restaurant, play pickleball (for those of you who play), meet at a member’s house, or invent an event. You could have an individual/personal event with your social group, and/or a club-wide member event. How do you get people to join your club? Offer to pay all or half of their first-year membership dues, give them a gift card for joining, or whatever you think is appropriate. Talk up the values of Altrusa, what your club has accomplished, what Altrusa means to each of you, what service project is near and dear to your heart. Have someone you helped come to speak at the event to talk about the difference Altrusa has made to them.

Check out the Altrusa International website for more ideas about membership! Let’s get started. Wouldn’t it be nice to hear from your new members “I thought you’d never ask!”, “I’ve never heard of Altrusa and I’m so glad to get involved,” “no one has ever asked me to join a service organization”, or “what can I do to help?”



District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025

BRR

-Koni Shaff, 1st VG

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR BRR CHANGES IS JANUARY 1, 2026!

Do you or your club have any proposals for changes or additions to the Bylaws of Altrusa International? Submitted proposals will be presented at the 2026 District Eleven Conference, scheduled for *May 1-2, 2026*.

Submitted proposals will be provided in the Call to Conference District Service Bulletin (DSB) edition that will be available in February-March of 2026. All District Eleven members will have the opportunity to review these proposals and discuss them at their club level. Conference Delegates will be responsible for representing their clubs during the voting process for these proposals. All proposals approved during the District Eleven 2026 Conference will be submitted to Altrusa International for consideration at the International Convention in 2027.

District Officers, District Committee Chairs, Past Governors, Clubs, and individual members are invited to submit proposals for change or additions to Bylaws, Resolutions, or Recommendations (BRR) to Koni Shaff, District Eleven Vice Governor, District BRR Chair, no later than ***January 1, 2026***.

Each proposal presented should include the following:

<i>a history with background and rationale</i>	<i>an implementation date</i>	<i>a list of other bylaws or policies affected by the proposed bylaws, resolutions, or recommendations</i>
<i>a list of other bylaws or policies affected by the proposed bylaws, resolutions, or recommendations</i>	<i>the fiscal impact, if any</i>	<i>and the suggested motion</i>

If you or any members of your club would like to make one or more proposals to be considered by the voting delegation at District Eleven Conference, please email them to me no later than ***January 1, 2026***. If you have any questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact me. Please share this information with your Board of Directors, committee chairs, and club members. Thank you!

District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025



ARIZONA AREA WORKSHOP 2025

District Eleven held its Fall Area Workshop in Chandler, Arizona, bringing together a strong turnout of members from both Arizona and California. The event focused on several key topics essential to organizational success, including **leadership, onboarding, mentorship, and succession planning.**

The workshop offered valuable insights and interactive sessions designed to support current and future leaders within the district. Attendees shared experiences, learned practical tools, and strengthened connections across state lines.

A special thank you goes to the **District Board** and **Leadership Chair** for organizing and delivering such an engaging and informative event.

For those who were unable to attend—or who would like to revisit the material—the **PowerPoint presentation** from the workshop is available on the **District Eleven Website**. You can find it by navigating to **News & Events** and selecting **2025 Leadership Workshops**.

The District Board looks forward to offering more workshops in the future and continuing to support the development and growth of its members.



District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY

The inspiration from Geese Flying in a V Formation comes from how they conserve energy, communicate, and support one another. Each bird benefits from the lift of the one in front, allowing the flock to fly farther with less effort, and they rotate leadership to share the burden.

When you see geese flying along in "V" formation, you might consider what science has discovered as to why they fly that way. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least **71 percent greater** flying range than if each bird flew on its own. **People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.** When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone — and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front. **If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those people who are headed the same way we are.** When the head goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point.

It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs, whether with people or with geese flying south. Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. **What messages do we give when we honk from behind?**

Finally — and this is important — when a goose gets sick or is wounded, and falls out of formation, two other geese fall out with that goose and follow it down to lend help and protection. They stay with the fallen goose until it can fly, and only then do they launch out on their own, or with another formation to catch up with their group.

If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that!

District Service Bulletin

Fall Edition 2025



Altrusa at the United Nations

Since 1946, Altrusa International has held observer status at the United Nations (UN). At that time, Altrusa was the first international classified service club for then executive and professional women to have an official observer appointed to the United Nations, Frances K. Marquis, president of the New York City (NYC) Altrusa Club. Frances was a close friend to another active NYC Altrusan, ***Eleanor Roosevelt***. Eleanor Roosevelt delivered an address at the 1945 San Francisco UN Conference on International Organization and later then President Harry S. Truman appointed Mrs. Roosevelt to Chair the famous UN Human Rights Committee.

In 1978, our UN membership was assigned to the level of a NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) in roster status within the ECOSOC (the Economic and Social Council). In this capacity, we join together with other NGOs, empowered to attend open General Assembly sessions and UN briefings/conferences related solely to global and social concerns, and receive UN Ground Passes.

In each biennium, the International Board appoints 5 representatives to attend and monitor UN meetings and briefings, as allowed. Altrusa's representatives may participate (either in person or via teleconference/Facebook) in weekly briefings/ "chats" conducted by the UN Department of Global Communication (DGC), Civil Society (NGOs). In addition, they may serve on DGC Annual Conference committees and other projects, formed to further the improvement of the human condition worldwide.